

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 are currently pending. Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1-8 are allowed.

Applicants have submitted claims 9-54 in an underlined version as requested by the Examiner for compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(b).

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner has withdrawn the rejections made under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Applicants acknowledge that the requirement of Offer to Surrender has been fulfilled, as stated by the Examiner.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

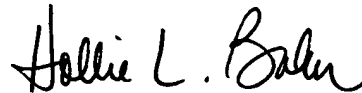
Claims 11, 21, 31, and 48-54 are rejected under the judicially created nonstatutory double patenting doctrine based on U.S. Patent No. 5,814,632. Applicants hereby submit a Terminal Disclaimer pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c) demonstrating that the instant patent application and U.S. Patent No. 5,814,632 are commonly owned. Any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that the legal title to said patent shall be the same as the legal title to U.S. Patent No. 5,814,632; this agreement to run with any patent granted on the above identified application and to be binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

Accordingly, the rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejection of the pending claims is now moot. The Examiner is requested to reconsider the rejection and to withdraw it and to pass this case to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



Hollie L. Baker
Registration No. 31,321

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Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
60 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
Telephone: 617-526-6110